

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The subject matter of this application is related to the subject matter in a co-pending non-provisional application by the same inventors as the instant application and filed on the same day as the instant application entitled, "Method and Apparatus for Establishing Peering Rules for Distributed Content Delivery," having serial number ~~TO BE ASSIGNED~~ 10/611,783, and filing date ~~TO BE ASSIGNED~~ June 30, 2003 (Attorney Docket No. KON03-0003).

Please replace paragraph [0027] with the following amended paragraph:

[0027] The data structures and code described in this detailed description are typically stored on a computer readable storage medium, which may be any device or medium that can store code and/or data for use by a computer system. This includes, but is not limited to, magnetic and optical storage devices such as disk drives, magnetic tape, CDs (compact discs) and DVDs (digital versatile discs or digital video discs), ~~and computer instruction signals embodied in a transmission medium (with or without a carrier wave upon which the signals are modulated).~~ For example, the transmission medium may include a communications network, such as the Internet.

Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] FIG. 5 illustrates the directory server inventory 212 from FIG. 2 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Inventory 212 includes a list of all of the content and possible candidate servers of the content that are known by directory server 104. Inventory 212 also contains MOID (media object identifier) 408 which identifies the content, node 502 which identifies a candidate server for the content, and range set 504 which identifies the pieces of the content that the candidate server has been reported as having in the past. Inventory 212 can be a subset of the entire universe of available content. Note that this facilitates scalability as different subsets of the entire universe of available content can reside on multiple directory servers. In another embodiment, range set 504 may not be included in inventory 212.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] In one embodiment of the present invention, node 502 is identified using standard public key infrastructure (PKI) techniques.

Please replace paragraph [0062] with the following amended paragraph:

[0062] A target that does not support range requests is effectively asked for the first needed range. Any other target is asked for a range starting at a preferred offset, and stopping at the size cap, the end of file (EOF), or the next range already loaded or allocated to a loader. If a loader reaches a range allocated to another loader, it is preempted (the loader gives up the target, which is made available for other loaders). When there is little left to download, loaders may all load the same range (racing to finish the download).

Please replace paragraph [0074] with the following amended paragraph. Please note that in the below paragraph, the underlining of the terms “within” and “between” is emphasis in the paragraph as originally submitted, rather than an addition in this amendment:

[0074] FIG. 10 presents a flowchart illustrating the process of utilizing network arena 204 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. In the present invention, an arena, such as arena 204, is an administrative unit that contains a group of nodes. Arena 204 could be as small as a router group or a local network, or arena 204 could be as large as an entire AS, or possibly even larger. Definitions can include subnets, IP/X (IP/X network is a collection of nodes that share a common Internet Protocol address prefix consisting of X bytes), network ranges, and nodes behind specific routers. The system starts by receiving a definition for arena 204 from a system administrator (step 1002). The system can also receive corresponding routing rules from the system administrator (step 1004). These routing rules can define the order of precedence for fallback within each match set within match sets 200. Additionally, these rules define the order of precedence for fallback between match sets, as well as which sets to avoid, and when to return to origin server 112.